



State of Wisconsin  
Department of Public Instruction  
Elizabeth Burmaster, State Superintendent

\*\*\***NEWS RELEASE**\*\*\*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

DPI 2008-67

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CONTACT: Patrick Gasper, Communications Officer, (608) 266-3559

## DPI to hold hearing on rules for awarding 4K start-up grants

MADISON—The Wisconsin Department of Public Instruction will conduct a hearing from 3 to 4:30 p.m., Thursday, April 17, in Room 041 of the GEF 3 Building, 125 South Webster Street, Madison, to take public testimony on emergency and proposed permanent rules related to grants for 4-year-old kindergarten.

The proposed rules describe application criteria and procedures for awarding \$3 million annually in 4K grants. The new grant program was established as part of the 2007-09 budget to encourage more school districts to develop 4-year-old kindergarten programs for their students. Priority will be given to districts that adopt a community approach for providing 4K services that includes a council or advisory group and contracts with a Head Start, licensed group-based childcare, or preschool center.

Applications for 4K grants for the 2008-09 school year were due March 31. School districts will be notified of their eligibility and the projected range for grants on April 18. The \$3,000 per pupil payment in the first year of the grant and \$1,500 in the second year may be prorated if funds are insufficient for the number of 4-year-olds enrolled under the grant. Districts will receive a preliminary estimate of their grant award, based on unaudited student counts, in November 2008. Final award payments will be made in June 2009.

The hearing site is fully accessible to people with disabilities. Copies of the administrative rules and fiscal estimate are available at <http://dpi.wi.gov/pb/rulespg.html>. Copies of these materials also are available by sending an e-mail request to [lori.slauson@dpi.wi.gov](mailto:lori.slauson@dpi.wi.gov) or by writing to Lori Slauson, administrative rules and federal grants coordinator, DPI, 125 South Webster Street, P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841.

Written comments on the proposed rules may be submitted via U.S. mail or e-mail to the addresses above no later than April 24 and will be given the same consideration as testimony presented at the hearing.

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**NOTE:** This news release is available electronically at [http://dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpi2008\\_67.pdf](http://dpi.wi.gov/eis/pdf/dpi2008_67.pdf).

**Mailing Address:** P.O. Box 7841, Madison, WI 53707-7841 • **Street Address:** 125 South Webster Street, Madison, WI 53703  
**Telephone:** (608) 266-3390 • **Toll Free:** (800) 441-4563 • **FAX:** (608) 267-1052 • **TDD:** (608) 267-2427 • **Internet Address:** [dpi.wi.gov](http://dpi.wi.gov)